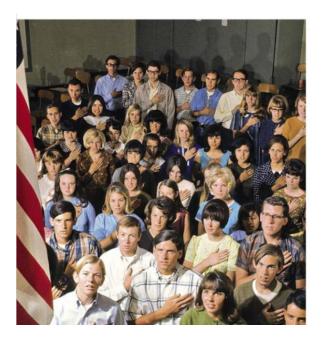
#### Middle School – The Worst Years of my Life

Rafael Khatchadorian is a new pupil in this school. He quickly discovers that life won't be easy. The principal made the Code of Conduct, with a rule for everything. Helped by his new friends, Rafe has a plan: break every rule to be able to have fun and be more creative. But are rules really that bad?



Middle School – The Worst Years of my Life, film directed by Steve Carr, 2016.



# The Pledge of Allegiance: patriotism

The primary reason to say the Pledge of Allegiance, especially among children in school, is to instill a sense of patriotism and to show pride and loyalty towards the country. In addition to school children, the Pledge of Allegiance is used to open congressional sessions and is also used in various government meetings at local events and in meetings among private organizations.

The Pledge of Allegiance was initially composed by Colonel George Balch in 1887 and revised by Francis Bellamy in 1892. It was formally adopted by Congress in 1942.

### Cheerleading: teamwork

Being a cheerleader means much more than just practicing and competing. The title of cheerleader comes with a responsibility to represent a group of athletes.

Cheer squads are a close-knit group that rely on one another to succeed and achieve. Any personal issues or unresolved conflicts can make or break the overall experience. Each member owes it to themselves, their squad, their gym and all cheerleaders to strive to be the best teammate they can!



## The mascot: the school's spirit

Each school and team's athletic department has a unique culture, which is personified by their mascot. Being a mascot is physically demanding and requires just as much athleticism as cheerleading. A mascot's costume can weigh upwards of 20 pounds, and while wearing one a mascot may do jumps, kicks and tumbling. A mascot's main purpose is the most important: energize the team and community's spirit. Mascots are also known to do a lot of good in their communities.